

take federal action to deal with the ongoing wave of violence aimed at our researchers and farmers across the country.

This legislation is titled the "Researchers and Farmers Freedom From Terrorism Act of 2000." It is my hope that we as a Congress will take steps to protect the farmers which feed America's children and the researchers who may someday cure cancer, AIDS or any thousands of diseases. We must protect them from the terrorists who, through their extreme agenda, would deny America the fruits of the future. This legislation makes a strong three pronged attack on these terrorists.

First, the bill makes violations of the Animal Enterprise Terrorism statutes (18 U.S.C. Sec. 43) punishable as RICO (Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization) crimes to expand the civil and criminal consequences of this terrorist activity.

Second, the bill increases penalties for Animal Terrorism by lowering the standard for prosecution by removing the requirement that prosecution prove the "intent" of the criminal; the bill increases the penalties for arson and property destruction from 1 year to 5 years, and the bill also includes similar penalties specifically directed at explosive or arson crimes against animal enterprises. This section also expands the definition of animal enterprises to include "the offices or headquarters of any" animal enterprise organizations.

Finally, the bill establishes the National Animal Terrorism and Ecoterrorism Clearinghouse at the Federal Bureau of Investigation to help law enforcement agencies gather and exchange information on animals and ecoterrorists nationwide.

I am introducing this legislation because groups such as the Animal Liberation Front and Earth Liberation Front are openly advocating the destruction of property through pipe-bombing, firebombing, sabotaging, and raiding of facilities that house both animals and medical research personnel. More dangerously, these groups advocate the harassment of people that have a prime goal of the betterment to mankind. These noble researchers are actively searching for the cures to the diseases such as AIDS, cancer, Multiple Sclerosis, heart disease, malaria, and tuberculosis.

The "harassment" of these researchers has included personal and physical violence. These threats of poisoning and personal harm which have now escalated to action. In October 1999, dozens of university scientists were mailed letters booby-trapped with razors. Had the razors gone undetected, they would have caused serious injury to the researchers or their college student assistants. On April 5, 1999, a University of Minnesota lab was destroyed, causing millions of dollars of physical damage from destroyed computers, microscopes, and medical equipment. This vandalism resulted in a 2-year setback to research on both Alzheimer's disease and cancer cells critical to developing a vaccine against cancer. The most tragic circumstance, however, was the fact that irreplaceable scientific information that was to be sent to the Food and Drug Administration to begin trials of a human cancer vaccine was destroyed.

Mr. Speaker, over 1,000 major acts of terrorism have occurred since 1980, causing \$42.8 million in damages. Two-thirds of this

amount has occurred in the last five years, demonstrating a sharp rise in terrorist attacks. Congress can and must act now to protect our nation's researchers and farmers. The right to peaceful protest is protected by the Constitution and nothing in this legislation undermines that basic right. Peaceful expression of animal rights importance will not be barred. But violent, intimidating, and destructive conduct has no such protection, and will be met with severe penalties under this legislation.

By stating that "extreme action" is the strategy of the animal rights activist, as opposed to "legitimate pressure," on their own website, www.animal-rights.com, these terrorists openly acknowledge that they are committing actions both unlawful and threatening. Moreover, Alex Pacheco, the Director of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, has deemed "arson, property destruction, burglary and theft as acceptable crimes (Associated Press, January 15, 1989)."

The "Researchers and Farmer's Freedom and Terrorism Act" bill deserves the support of all those who believe in the right to peaceful protest and abhor those who resort to violence. It will send a message that extremist actions will not be tolerated in our society, and that medical research personnel and research facilities deserve the full protection of the law against those who violate the safety of others.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

IN HONOR OF TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2000

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Speaker, the Republic of China on Taiwan will celebrate its birthday on October 10, 2000. Taiwan has much to celebrate. It is a modern country led by newly elected President Chen Shui-bian, who believes that Taiwan's future lies in a strong democracy and a free enterprise system. Taiwan is highly admired as a successful example of democracy in much of the developing world. In March of this year, Taiwanese citizens freely chose Chen Shui-bian, the candidate representing the Democratic Progressive Party, as their president. Since his inauguration on May 20, President Chen has convincingly demonstrated his leadership in all areas.

In recent years, Taiwan has experienced unprecedented economic success. In addition to its well-known industrial prowess, Taiwan leads most Asian nations in its production of computers, computer chips, and telecommunications equipment and has contributed tremendously to the world wide high technology boom. Taiwan's citizens enjoy one of the highest living standards in the world.

On the occasion of the Republic of China's National Day, it is important to remember that Taiwan has a strong relationship with the United States and we hope that this relationship will continue to flourish in years to come. I look forward to working with President Chen and wish the people of Taiwan well on this special day.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2000

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, one of our largest trading partners, the Republic of China on Taiwan, is celebrating its National Day today, October 10, 2000. I wish to join my colleagues in Congress and others throughout the world in commending President Chen Shui-bian and Ambassador C.J. Chen of the Republic of China as they continue to lead Taiwan to greater economic prosperity and fuller participation in international activities abroad.

I am proud of Taiwan's economic and political accomplishments in recent years and am hopeful this success will continue for years to come. I join with my colleagues in Congress to wish President Chen Shui-bian and his people all the best as they prepare their National Day celebrations. Good luck and good cheer.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ABEL AND MARY NICHOLSON HOUSE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE STUDY ACT OF 2000

HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2000

Mr. LoBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce H.R. 5399, the Abel and Mary Nicholson House Historic Site Study Act of 2000. This bill would require the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Abel and Mary Nicholson House, located in Elsinboro Township, Salem County, New Jersey, in my Congressional district, as a unit of the National Park System. As part of the study the Secretary would also be required to consider management alternatives to create an administrative association with the New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail Route. This study is the required first step in designating the site as a national park.

The Abel and Mary Nicholson House was built in 1722 and is a rare surviving example of an unaltered early 18th Century patterned brick building. The original portion of the house has existed for 280 years with only routine maintenance. This house is a unique resource which can provide significant opportunities for studying our nation's history and development.

I was pleased to announce the designation of this house as a National Historic Landmark on March 1, 2000, which made it the first National Historic Landmark site in Salem or Gloucester Counties, in New Jersey. The U.S. Department of the Interior designated the Nicholson House as a National Historic Landmark because of its historical importance to the entire nation and listed it in the National Register of Historic Places.

As one of the most significant "first period" houses surviving in the Delaware Valley, the Nicholson House represents a piece of history from both Southern New Jersey and early